Christmas in Russia is celebrated on January 7.

However, some Russians observe two Christmases and even two New Year's – the first Christmas observed on December 25th, and the second New Year's observed on January 14th.

People in Russia celebrate Christmas Day with activities such as having a family dinner, attending a church and visiting relatives and friends.

The Christmas Eve meal is typically meatless The day before Christmas is the day of strict fasting and reflection. Traditionally, the fast lasts until the first star appears.

Principal dishes on the Christmas table in old Russia included a variety of pork (roasted pig), jelly (kholodets), and aspic. Christmas dinner also included many other food: goose with apples, whole fish, stuffed pies, and desserts in various forms. Now we have meat dishes, salads, fruit, sweets and pies and cakes .

People decorate Christmas tree and their rooms with ornaments, lights, tinsels.

They wear lovely clothes.

Russia has many beautiful Christmas traditions. Many years ago, one of the most beloved traditions took place on Christmas night. After breaking the 40-day fast with family, people used to stay up all night, walk from house to house and sing Christmas carols. As a reward, those singing carols would get generous treat. Many of the carolers wear costumes and masks. Nowadays many people still follow this tradition.

Young girls try to read fortune in tea leaves, coffee, mirrors, candle wax,

to guess their future husband.

One of the most beloved stories is Gogol’s fairy tale Christmas Eve or The Night before Christmas.